

LITTLE HULTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

HEALTH

AND

SANITARY REPORTS

AND

STATISTICS

FOR


Year Ending December 31st, 1915.

J. H. MARSH, Medical Officer.

J. T. DAVIES, Surveyor, and Inspector.

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Medical Officer's Report.

Moorside,
Little Hulton,
March 31st, 1916.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Little Hulton District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my Nineteenth Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the Little Hulton Urban District, for the year 1915.

Area of District in Statute Acres	...	...	1699
Total Population of all Ages (last Census)	...	...	8113
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	1739
Average Number of Persons per House	...	...	4.6

Births registered during the year were 208 (105 males and 103 females), an increase of 17 on last year, and equal to a rate of 25.64 per 1000 of the population.

Deaths in the District numbered 106 (55 males 51 females), equal to a rate of 13.06 per 1000, and including the "Transferable Deaths," viz., of residents who have died outside, 114 (62 males, 52 females), eighteen more than last year, and corresponding to a rate of 13.68 per 1000.

Increment of Life, viz., the excess of Births over Deaths, including Transferable Deaths, was 94 (43 males, 51 females), as against 85 (43 males, 42 females) in 1914.

Ages of Deaths (including Transferable Deaths) **in Groups :**

Under 1 year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and Upwards.	Total.
26	7	8	5	8	13	20	27	114

Causes of Death were—"Enteric Fever" 2, "Measles" 5, "Whooping Cough" 4, "Diphtheria and Croup" 3, "Influenza" 3, "Phthisis" 6, "Tuberculous Meningitis" 1, "Other Tuberculous Diseases" 2, "Meningitis" 2, "Bronchitis" 19, "Pneumonia" 9, "Diarrhœa and Enteritis" 6, "Cirrhosis of Liver" 3, "Alcoholism" 1, "Nephritis" 5, "Congenital Debility, &c." 9, "Violent Deaths, &c." 3, "Other Defined Diseases" 29, "Diseases ill-defined" 2. Total 114.

Infantile Mortality.—The deaths of children under one year numbered 26, an increase of 9 as compared with last year, and equivalent to a rate of 125 per 1000 births. The causes of death were—"Measles" 1, "Tuberculous Meningitis" 1, "Meningitis and Convulsions" 2, "Bronchitis" 6, "Diarrhœa and Enteritis" 4, "Gastritis" 1, "Premature Birth" 5, "Congenital Debility" 4, "Other Causes" 2. Of the above five were under one week old, one under two weeks, two under three weeks, four under three months, five under six months, and nine under twelve months.

Congenital Debility and Premature Births account for 28·8 per cent. of the Infant deaths.

Zymotic Mortality.—The seven principal diseases, viz.:—Small-pox, Scarlet Fever, Measles, Whooping Cough, Enteric Fever, Diarrhœal Disease, and Diphtheria caused 20 deaths, five being due to Measles, four to Whooping Cough, two to Enteric Fever, six to Diarrhœal Diseases, and three to Diphtheria, corresponding to a rate of 2·58 per 1000.

Respiratory Diseases.—The three main diseases, viz.:—Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy gave rise to 28 deaths, an increase of five on last year, and equal to a rate of 3·45 per 1000. Of these, six were children under one year old, and sixteen were persons over 65 years.

Infectious Diseases.—Thirty-five cases were notified, and particulars of each case, sanitary defects, &c., observed, were laid before you in my Register.

Erysipelas.—Nine cases were notified as against two last year.

Scarlet Fever.—Ten cases were notified, fifteen less than last year, and three were removed to the Farnworth Hospital.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—One case was notified.

Enteric Fever.—Four cases were notified, as against seven last year.

Puerperal Fever.—One case was notified.

Diphtheria & Membranous Croup.—Ten cases were notified, an increase of five, as compared with the previous year. Eight of these were children, residents in your Worsley Road District.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.—Twelve cases were notified, three more than last year. Six deaths occurred, equal to a rate of $\cdot 72$ per 1000. I regret there is still the difficulty in getting Sanatorium treatment, even for cases in the early stage of the disease.

Other Forms of Tuberculosis.—Three cases were notified, five less than last year.

Measles.—Five deaths occurred from this disease, which was especially prevalent during July and August. Owing to the holidays no schools had to be closed. Every assistance was given me by the School Officials. On November 27th a General Order was issued by the L.G.B., to become operative on January 1st, 1916, initiating a system of Notification of Measles and German Measles, giving Local Sanitary Authorities power to undertake measures for the care of patients suffering from these Diseases, and so saving many lives.

Notification of Births (Extension) Act came into force on September 1st.

Dairies, Cowsheds, &c., have been regularly inspected, and generally are in a fairly satisfactory condition.

Water Supply has been good both in quality and quantity.

General Sanitary Matters.—Your Sanitary Committee have again made several inspections of different parts of the District with me, and improvements have been made, and many insanitary defects remedied.

There is still a need of cottages with more bedroom accommodation.

The Council are to be congratulated on having decided to take into their own hands part of the scavenging, and also very much to be congratulated on having provided a Mortuary, thoroughly well-fitted and suitable for its purpose. It will supply a long felt want in the Township.

Factories and Workshops have been regularly inspected, and any alteration required have in most cases been at once carried out.

The Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890 to 1909.—242 dwelling-houses have been inspected. The general character of defects found being want of stair rails and window cords, defective slopstones, dampness, requiring beautifying, &c. In 63 cases these were remedied on receipt of a written notice. The work in the block of houses to which I have drawn your attention in my two last Annual Reports is not even yet completed.

I am,

Yours obediently,

JNO. HOLT MARSH,

Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1915 and Previous Years.

Area of District in acres (land and inland water), 1699 statute.			
Total population at all ages	...	8113	} At Census of 1911.
Number of inhabited houses	...	1739	
Average number of persons per house	...	4'7	

Total population at all ages	...	8113)	At Census
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Number of inhabited houses	1739	...	of
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Number of inhabited houses	...	1739	of
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TABLE II.

**Cases of Infectious Diseases Notified during the
Year 1915.**

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.								No. of Cases removed to Hospital from each Locality			
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.							1 to 5.	5 to 25.	25 to 65.	Cases removed to Hospital.
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards				
Smallpox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria, including } Membranous Croup }	10	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Erysipelas	9	...	...	...	1	4	2	2	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	10	...	3	5	2	...	...	...	1	2	...	3
Typhus Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	4	...	...	1	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	12	1	...	1	1	8	1	...	...	...	...	...
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	3	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS	50	2	3	20	5	14	4	2	1	3	...	4

TABLE III.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during the Year 1915.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF " RESIDENTS " WHETHER OCCURRING IN OR BEYOND THE DISTRICT.								
	All ages.	Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards
All causes } Certified	112	26	7	8	5	8	13	19	26
} Uncertified ..	2							1	1
Enteric Fever	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
Small Pox .....		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	5	1	1	3	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	4	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup ...	3	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...
Influenza.....	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Erysipelas .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulm.Tubercul)	6	...	...	...	...	1	3	2	...
Tuberculous Meningitis..	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tubercul. Diseases	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Cancer,MalignantDisease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rheumatic Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Organic Heart Disease...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis	19	6	...	...	...	...	...	2	11
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	9	...	1	...	...	...	1	2	5
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa and Enteritis...	6	4	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Appendicitis & Typhlitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
Nephritis & Bright's Dis.	5	...	...	...	1	2	...	2	...
Puerperal Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Debility and Malformation,including Premature Birth	9	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violent Deaths,excluding Suicide.....	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
Suicide.....	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Other Defined Diseases...	29	3	...	1	2	3	7	5	8
Diseases ill-defined or unknown.....	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
	114	26	7	8	5	8	13	20	27

TABLE IV.

Infantile Mortality during the Year 1915.

Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages under
One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-3 Months.	3-6 Months.	6-9 Months.	9-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year
ALL CAUSES	Certified	5	1	2	..	8	4	5	3	6	26
	Uncertified .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Small-pox .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chicken-pox .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Scarlet Fever .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough.....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria and Croup .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tuberculous Meningitis .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Abdominal Tuberculosis .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) ...		..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Convulsions .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Laryngitis .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bronchitis .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	2	6
Pneumonia (all forms).....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diarrhœa .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2
Enteritis.....		..	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	2
Gastritis.....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Syphilis .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rickets .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Suffocation, overlying.....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Injury at birth .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Atelectasis .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Congenital Malformations ...		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Premature birth		3	1	1	..	5	..	..	..	..	5
Atrophy, Debility & Marasmus		1	..	..	..	1	3	..	..	..	4
Other Causes		1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	2
Total		5	1	2	..	8	4	5	3	6	26

Nett Births in the year ... 208 } legitimate and
Nett Deaths in the year ... 26 } illegitimate.

Annual Report of the Inspector of Nuisances.

During the year 1915 work in this Department has had to receive attention in spite of the drawbacks arising from the national upheaval.

The following statistics give an outline of the routine.

TABLE I.

Number of nuisances dealt with, 120 ; Visits paid to premises during abatement, 313 ; Notices served 1875, 20 ; Notices served 1907, 2 ; Rooms limewashed, 63 ; Visits paid to various premises, 1013 ; Privies converted to water closets, 22.

TABLE II.

DESCRIPTION OF NUISANCES.—Defective water closets, 10 ; Drains, 78 ; Slop-pipes, 2 ; Spouts, 23 ; Ashpits and closets, 7 ; rooms requiring limewashing, 63. These nuisances have all been abated.

TABLE III.

Inspection of New Buildings, 5 ; Visits to Workshops, 5 ; Cowsheds, 25 ; Factories, 7 ; Bakehouses, 12 ; Slaughterhouses, 14 ; Smoke Observations, 6.

As is evidenced by the statistics there has been much to do in spite of the disturbed conditions.

Nuisances have certainly been less numerous, but those which have occurred have required more persistent inspection during their abatement, as is clearly shown.

During 1913 and 1914 visits to premises were 849 and 894 respectively ; but this year they total 1013. These visits, although more numerous by 10 per cent. than last year, revealed only about 60 per cent. of the number of nuisances, and it is fair to assume that generally the district was so much better,

Perhaps the greater cost of materials and the difficulty experienced in obtaining labour, has had much to do with the fact that 20 statutory notices have had to be served, and has also meant more visits on the part of your Inspector.

Closet conversion has certainly had a big check owing to the materials bounding up in price, and if the Water Corporation increase their waste charges for same as is now proposed, a further restraint will be put on this most needful sanitary improvement.

Slaughter houses, bakehouses, workshops and workplaces have all had visits paid to them, and any small matter noted has been immediately attended to, and it has not been necessary to report any of them.

Smoke observations have been made with results quite satisfactory, and the complaints we used to have some years ago as to smoke nuisance have become a thing of the past.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following information gives particulars of infectious cases in such a manner as to make it easy to understand where the cases have occurred, and from your own personal knowledge of the district you will be able to form an opinion whether the surroundings of the different cases have had any bearing on them :—

Typhoid: April 1, June 3, Total 4. Scarlet Fever: January 1, March 1, April 1, July 1, September 1, November 4, Total 9. Diphtheria: May 1, July 1, August 1, December 7, Total 10. Erysipelas: January 1, February 3, March 1, April 2, May 1, October 1, Total 9. Pul. Tub.: January 1, April 1, May 1, September 1, October 1, November 4, December 1, Total 10. Ophthalmia Neon.: June 1. Puerperal: July 1. Memb. Croup: 0. Totals: January 3, February 3, March 2, April 5, May 3, June 4, July 3, August 1, September 2, October 2, November 8, December 8. Total 44.

Walkden Wesleyan 1, Wharton 3, St. Paul's 4, Worsley Road 7, Primitive Methodist, 2, St. Edmund's 2, St. John's 0, School age 14, Under school age 6, Over school age 24.

Area.	No. of Cases.		No. of Houses.		Estimated Population	
Manchester-rd. East to Clegg's Lane ...	11	...	668	...	3210	
Clegg's Lane to Highfield Road ...	6	...	227	...	1101	
Highfield Road to Boundary ...	4	...	198	...	954	
Clegg's Lane ...	12	...	327	...	1580	
Worsley Road ...	44	...	308	...	1447	

Forty-four cases of infectious disease have occurred, 24 over school age, 6 under school age, and 14 attending school.

The number of cases over school age is slightly less than last year by 54·5 per cent. against 62, while those under school age are 31·8 per cent., and the scholars attending the various schools form only 13·6 per cent. of the whole number of cases notified.

The Phthisical cases number 10, as against 13 last year, and of these, three who died have occurred in one short street of 12 houses.

Many defects existing on this property have been pointed out to you, and the neglect of the owner to do the repairs has been several times reported to you. There has been a slight improvement effected, but very much more remains to be done, and I trust you will insist in an early compliance with your instructions.

From August to December 31st we had six cases of Diphtheria, all children attending one school, the same having been condemned, but owing to the war the building of another has been deferred. The other four cases were fairly wide apart, but one of them might have been a contact. Eight of the nine cases of Erysipelas occurred during the first four months of the year. These was an increase of two over the previous year.

Typhoid cases are three down on last year, and Scarlet Fever cases are sixteen less. This is a source of satisfaction, many advantages accruing to a district with a low infectious rate.

I am still of the opinion that the constant spraying of schools, at least once a month, and as often in addition as circumstances (such as abnormal sickness of an ordinary nature) may require, may show to be advantageous.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

JAMES T. DAVIES,

Surveyor and Inspector.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACT.

Although the work of the house inspection has more or less proceeded during the whole of the past year, I cannot say that it has been fruitful in the unearthing of any glaring sanitary defects of such a nature as to show any premises unfit for habitation, or even more unhealthy than other premises.

Certainly some defects have been discovered, and many of them have been remedied, but the owners have been very chary indeed in incurring expense under conditions as at present existing.

The cost of materials and the price and difficulty of labour have militated against any alacrity being displayed in this work of repairs to property, and only the smallest amount of work has been done that would cause them to escape any further proceedings being taken.

The following statement will enable you to form an idea as to what are the prevailing defects and their relative importance to the health of the occupiers of such premises.

STATEMENT OF DEFECTS FOUND DURING INSPECTION.

				Defects.		Put in Order.		Still Existing.
No handrail in the stairs	...	34	...	30	...	4		
Defective windows including broken cords	...	15	...	12	...	3		
Stopped drain	...	1	...	1	...	—		
Defective privies and ashpits	...	7	...	7	...	—		
Slopstones defective	...	18	...	14	...	4		
Defective floors	...	1	...	1	...	—		
„ spouts	...	4	...	4	...	—		
„ roofs	...	2	...	2	...	—		
„ yards	...	16	...	16	...	—		
Pointing of walls	...	12	...	12	...	—		
Beautifying required	...	13	...	13	...	—		
		<u>123</u>		<u>112</u>		<u>11</u>		

Of those left over from last year most have been attended to, but there are some still existing.

The nuisances existing on the twelve houses were put in order early in 1915, the houses being limewashed and decorated, yards being paved and grouted slopstones fixed, and one water closet.

The districts taken for this year's inspection have comprised a very great amount of property of comparatively modern age, and this has facilitated a much greater number of houses being inspected.

Many of the premises have deep ashpits and privies, but are structurally in good order, and so comply with your by-laws, and only those have been dealt with which were becoming delapidated, or which had become a nuisance from some other cause.

Yours faithfully,

JAMES T. DAVIES,

Inspector under Housing
and T. P. Act.

